

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1-13. (cancelled)

14. (currently amended) A golf practice device that helps a golfer develop an optimal golf swing, comprising:

a base adapted to overlie a ground surface;

a vertical extension mounted to said base in upstanding relation relative to said ground surface;

a horizontal extension secured to an upper end of said vertical extension in cantilevered relation thereto;

said horizontal extension being disposed in a substantially horizontal plane;

said horizontal extension being disposed at a substantially right angle to a line that extends from a target golf hole to a stationary golf ball supported by said ground surface;

said horizontal extension having a free end disposed in vertically spaced apart relation to said ground surface;

said free end adapted to be disposed substantially directly above said stationary golf ball;

a cradle interface secured to said free end;

a support arm adapted to be releasably engaged by said cradle interface;

said support arm, when releasably engaged by said cradle interface, being disposed substantially horizontally and being disposed substantially parallel to said line;

said support arm being at least partially covered by a soft foam material;

said releasable engagement of said support arm by said cradle interface enabling said support arm to separate from said cradle interface if said soft foam material is struck by said golf club;

said support arm having a first position where it is disposed in trailing relation to said cradle interface and in parallel relation to said line;

said support arm having a second position where it is disposed in leading relation to said cradle interface and in parallel relation to said line;

said support arm being in said first position when said device is used by a student golfer; and

said support arm being in said second position when said device is used by an advanced golfer;

said first and second positions of said support arm being mutually exclusive of one another, said support arm when in said first position not being positionable in said second position and said support arm when in said second position not being positionable in said first position;

whereby golfers having differing skill levels may practice their golf swing by using said device.

15. (currently amended) The device of claim 1, wherein a predetermined extent of the support arm is formed of covered by a low density polyethylene foam.

16. (currently amended) The device of claim 14, wherein the cradle interface engages said support arm by a press fit.

17. (currently amended) The device of claim 14, wherein the cradle interface engages the support arm by a magnetic coupling.

18. (currently amended) The device of claim 14, wherein the cradle interface engages the support arm by a hook and loop fastener, there being a first hook and loop fastener secured to said cradle interface and a second hook and loop fastener secured to said support arm, said first and second hook and loop fasteners being complementary to one another.

19. (currently amended) The device of claim 14, wherein the base includes a pair of horizontal support members disposed in a V-shaped configuration, said horizontal support members extending from said vertical extension in a direction away from said stationary golf ball.

20. (currently amended) The device of claim 19, further comprising weights secured to respective free ends of said horizontal support members.

21. (currently amended) The device of claim 19, further comprising an elastomeric assembly guide cord that extends through said horizontal support members, said vertical extension and said horizontal extension extension, beginning at said respective free ends of said horizontal support members and terminating at the free end of said horizontal extension, said elastomeric assembly guide cord maintaining said horizontal supports members in taut relation to said vertical extension and maintaining said vertical extension in taut relation to said horizontal extension.